

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A camera demonstration method comprising the steps of:
capturing a first electronic image in a camera;
storing said first electronic image in memory in said camera;
capturing a second electronic image in said camera following said storing;
replacing said first electronic image in said memory with said second electronic image when said camera is free of a film unit and said memory has capacity for storing both said images; and
storing said both said first electronic image and said second electronic image in said memory, when said camera has said film unit loaded and said film unit has capacity for storing both said images.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising displaying said electronic images on a display on said camera.

3. The method of claim 1 further comprising selectively capturing, in said film unit, archival images corresponding to said first and second electronic images when said camera has said film unit loaded.

4. The method of claim 1 further comprising, following said replacing, displaying said second image on a display on said camera, then deactivating said display, and erasing said second image concurrent with said deactivating.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein said erasing is irreversible.

6. A hybrid film-electronic camera demonstration method comprising the steps of:

capturing a first electronic image in a hybrid film-electronic camera;

storing said first electronic image in memory in said camera;

capturing a second electronic image in said camera following said storing;

replacing said first electronic image in said memory with said second electronic image when said camera is free of film and said memory has capacity for storing both said images; and

storing said second electronic image in said memory along with said first electronic image when said camera has film loaded and said memory has capacity for storing both said images.

7. The method of claim 6 further comprising checking whether said camera has film loaded prior to said replacing.

8. The method of claim 7 further comprising displaying said electronic images on a display on said camera.

9. The method of claim 7 further comprising checking a film load status of said camera.

10. The method of claim 7 further comprising, concurrent with respective said capturing steps, capturing corresponding first and second latent images on said film when said camera has said film loaded.

11. A hybrid film-electronic camera demonstration method comprising the steps of:

capturing a first electronic image in said camera;

storing said first electronic image in memory in said camera;

following said storing, capturing a second electronic image in said camera;

sensing that said camera is in an unloaded state;

responsive to said sensing that said camera is in said unloaded state, automatically replacing said first electronic image in said memory with said second electronic image;

capturing third and fourth electronic images in said camera following said replacing;

following said capturing of said third and fourth electronic images, sensing that said camera is in a loaded state;

replacing said second electronic image in said memory with said third electronic image; and

responsive to said sensing that said camera is in said loaded state, automatically storing said fourth electronic image in said memory along with said third electronic image.

12. The method of claim 11 further comprising selectively displaying said electronic images on a display on said camera.

13. The method of claim 11 further comprising, concurrent with respective said capturing steps, capturing corresponding archival images corresponding to said third and fourth electronic images.

14. A camera for use with a film unit, said camera comprising:
a body;
an electronic capture unit disposed in said body, said electronic capture unit being capable of selectively capturing a sequence of electronic images;

a film holder disposed in said camera, said film holder being changeable between a loaded state and an unloaded state, said film holder

removably holding said film unit in said loaded state, said film holder being free of said film unit in said unloaded state;

memory disposed within said body, said memory having a capacity to store a plurality of said electronic images;

a controller operatively connected to said electronic capture unit, said film holder, and said memory, said controller, when said film holder is in said loaded state, maintaining each of said electronic images in said memory free from overwriting by a next electronic image of said sequence, said controller, when said film holder unit is in said unloaded state, overwriting each said electronic image with said next electronic image of said sequence.

15. The camera of claim 14 wherein said controller fills said memory to said capacity with said electronic images and then replaces said electronic images in said memory one-by-one, when said film holder is in said loaded state.

16. The camera of claim 14 further comprising a display mounted on said camera, said display being actuatable to display one of said electronic images.

17. A hybrid electronic-film camera usable with photographic film, said camera comprising:

a body;

a film capture subsystem disposed in said body, said film capture subsystem having a film holder loadable with said film and a film capture unit capable of selectively capturing a plurality of latent images on said film;

an electronic capture unit disposed in said body, said electronic capture unit being capable of selectively capturing a series of electronic images;

memory operative connected to said electronic capture unit, said memory storing said electronic images, said electronic images being sequentially

substituted in said memory when said film is absent from said film capture subsystem, said electronic images being accumulated in said memory when said film is present in said film capture subsystem.

18. The camera of claim 17 wherein said capture units are capable of capturing a light image as corresponding latent and electronic images.

19. The camera of claim 17 further comprising a display mounted on said camera, said display being actuatable to display one of said electronic images stored in said memory.

20. A hybrid film-electronic camera for use with photographic film, said camera comprising:

a body having a film holder, said film holder being openable for loading and unloading the film;

a film capture unit adjoining said film holder, said film capture unit being capable of selectively capturing a plurality of latent images on said film;

an electronic capture unit disposed in said body, said electronic capture unit being capable of selectively capturing a series of electronic images;

memory disposed in said body in operative relation to said electronic capture unit, said memory storing said electronic images, said memory being switchable between a normal use mode accumulating said electronic images and a demonstration mode sequentially replacing each one of said electronic images with a successive one of said electronic images; and

a controller operatively connected to said memory and said film holder, said controller switching said memory from said demonstration mode to said normal use mode responsive to said loading and from said normal use mode to said demonstration mode responsive to said unloading.

21. The camera of claim 20 wherein said capture units are capable of capturing a series of light images as a series of said latent images on said film and as a corresponding series of said electronic images.

22. The camera of claim 20 further comprising a display mounted on said camera, said display being actuatable to display one of said electronic images stored in said memory.

23. The camera of claim 22 wherein said controller switches said memory from said demonstration mode to said normal use mode when said display is deactivated while said memory is in said demonstration mode.

24. The camera of claim 23 wherein said controller erases a last image captured in said demonstration mode when said display is deactivated while said memory is in said demonstration mode.

25. The camera of claim 23 wherein said controller irreversibly erases a last image captured in said demonstration mode when said display is deactivated while said memory is in said demonstration mode.

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